WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An encryption method, comprising:

5   determining a geographic location associated with a software program;

selecting an encryption level based upon the determined geographic location; and

executing the software program utilizing the selected encryption level.

10   2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the geographic location comprises determining the geographic location of a computer system on which the software program will be executed.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the geographic location comprises receiving

15   information from a Global Positioning System.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the Global Positioning System comprises an I/O device of a computer system on which the software will execute.

20   5. The method of claim 1, further comprising, overriding the selected encryption level responsive to receiving an encryption override signal.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the encryption override signal is received from a Smart Card I/O device of a computer system on which the software program will execute.

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7. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting an encryption level comprises selecting an encryption level from a set of encryption levels including at least a U.S. encryption level corresponding to a U.S. geographic location, a European encryption level corresponding to a

non-French European geographic location, and a French encryption level corresponding to a French geographic location.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the U.S. encryption level comprises a 128-bit encryption

5   level.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the French encryption level comprises a 40-bit encryption level.

10   10. A computer system, comprising:

        a set of processors comprising at least one processor;

        a system memory accessible to the set of processors via a host bus;

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        an host bridge coupled between the host bus and an I/O bus; and

        a geographic locator adapted to communicate with the host bus via the I/O bus;

20   wherein the system memory is configured with a set of instructions executable by the set of processors, the set of instructions comprising:

        means for determining the geographic location of the computer system from the geographic locator;

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        means for selecting an encryption level based on the determined geographic location; and

        means for utilizing the selected encryption level when executing the set of instructions.

11. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the geographic locator comprises a Global Positioning System.

12. The computer system of claim 11, wherein the I/O bus comprises a PCI compliant I/O bus and wherein the Global Positioning System comprises a PCI compatible I/O device connected to the I/O bus.

13. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the set of computer instruction further comprise, means for overriding the selected encryption level responsive to receiving an encryption override signal.

14. The computer system of claim 13, wherein the encryption override signal is received from a Smart Card I/O device of the computer system.

15. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the means for selecting an encryption level comprises means for selecting an encryption level from a set of encryption levels including at least a U.S. encryption level corresponding to a U.S. geographic location, a European encryption level corresponding to a non-French European geographic location, and a French encryption level corresponding to a French geographic location.

16. The computer system of claim 15, wherein the U.S. encryption level comprises a 128-bit encryption level and the French encryption level comprises a 40-bit encryption level.

17. A computer program product, comprises a computer readable medium configured with a set of computer readable instructions, the set of instructions comprising:

means for determining a geographic location associated with a software program;

means for selecting an encryption level based upon the determined geographic location; and

means for executing the software program utilizing the selected encryption level.

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18.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein determining the geographic location comprises determining the geographic location of a computer system on which the software program will be executed.

10   19.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein determining the geographic location comprises receiving information from a Global Positioning System.

20.   The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the Global Positioning System comprises an I/O device of a computer system on which the software will execute.

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21.   The computer program product of claim 17, further comprising, overriding the selected encryption level responsive to receiving an encryption override signal.

22.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the encryption override signal is
20   received from a Smart Card I/O device of a computer system on which the software program will execute.

23.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein selecting an encryption level comprises selecting an encryption level from a set of encryption levels including at least a U.S. encryption
25   level corresponding to a U.S. geographic location, a European encryption level corresponding to a non-French European geographic location, and a French encryption level corresponding to a French geographic location.

24. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the U.S. encryption level comprises a 128-bit encryption level and the French encryption level comprises a 40-bit encryption level.